

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application.

The Examiner required applicants to elect for prosecution one of the following allegedly patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species I, referring to FIGS. 1A-1C;

Species II, referring to FIG. 2A-2C;

Species III, referring to FIGS. 3A-3B; and

Species IV, referring to FIG. 4.

Applicants' Reply

Applicants had previously elected Species I, referring to FIG. 2, for initial substantive examination. However, applicants had not previously included a listing of all claims readable on Species I. Applicants now provide such a listing.

The Examiner noted that "claim 1 appears to be generic" (Restriction Requirement, page 2).

At least claims 1-11 read upon FIGS. 1A-1C. Claims 1-11, however, may read upon additional figures and portions of the specification not embodied in FIGS. 1A-1C. For this reason, claims 1-11 should be construed in the

context of the entire specification as filed -- not just the elected figures.

Applicants' election of FIGS. 1A-1C was made to aid the Examiner in conducting a reasonable search -- not to limit the scope of claims 1-11 to the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 1A-1C. Therefore, applicant will continue to prosecute claims 1-11 in light of the entire specification.

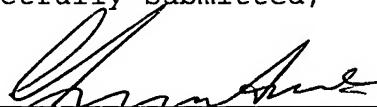
Applicants have elected a single species, Species I, thereby meeting the requirement of MPEP § 809.

Conclusion

Applicants have elected for examination a single species of the claimed invention as required by the Examiner.

The Director is hereby authorized to contact applicant regarding payment of any fees required in connection with this Response. A duplicate copy of this paper is being submitted herewith. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Claire J. Saintil-van Goodman
Applicant
Claire J. Saintil-van Goodman
1155 Ocean Avenue, #1C
Brooklyn, New York 11230
(718) 421-1497